

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GABORO 02290 140614Z  
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SCA-01 VO-03 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 DHA-02 /028 W  
----- 120574 /11

R 140445Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9107  
AMEMBASSY MASERU  
AMEMBASSY MBABANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GABORONE 2290

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CVIS, BC, SF, US  
SUBJECT: MENNONITE VISA PROBLEMS

REF: 74 CAPE TOWN 855

1. MENNONITE VOLUNTEERS IN BLS HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BY SAG IN VISA ISSUANCE. SAG FORSEC FOURIE IMPLIED TO AMBASSADOR HURD IN 1974 THAT THIS IS BECAUSE OF MENNONITES' VIEWS ON CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS AND OPPOSITION TO SAG DOMESTIC POLICIES (PARA 3, REFTEL). MENNONITE DIRECTOR LARRY FISHER VISITED EMBASSY DECEMBER 9 TO FILL US IN ON THEIR CURRENT PROBLEMS (E.G. SAG DENIAL OF VISA REQUESTS) AND TO ASK THAT USG MAKE REPRESENTATION ON THEIR BEHELF IN PRETORIA. HE INDICATED THAT MENNONITES ALSO PLAN TO PURSUE MATTER IN WASHINGTON.

2. MENNONITES HOLDING ANNUAL MEETING IN SWAZILAND DECEMBER 20-28. LAND TRAVEL VIA SOUTH AFRICA NECESSARY AS ALL PLANES BOOKED DURING HOLIDAYS. THEREFORE, SEVERAL VOLUNTEERS IN BOTSWANA HAVE APPLIED AGAIN FOR VISAS. SO FAR, ONE FAMILY HAS RECEIVED ONE-YEAR, MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISA. SAG HAS INDICATED THAT TWO OTHER INDIVIDUALS WILL BE GRANTED TRANSIT VISAS. APPLICATION BY MICHAEL AND DIANE LELAND FOR TRANSIT VISAS ALSO "UNDER CONSIDERATION". ONE COUPLE, CHARLES AND MARILALA MILLAR, HAVE BEEN DENIED VISA OF ANY KIND. (FISHER ALSO NOTED THAT ARBITRARY TREATMENT EXTENDS BEYOND AMERICANS. TWO DUTCH COUPLES IN HIS GROUP APPLIED; ONE RECEIVED ONE-YEAR, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MULTIPLE-ENTRY AND OTHER COUPLE FLATLY REFUSED.)

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY PRETORIA'S  
URGENTLY RAISING GENERAL ISSUE OF MENNONITE VISAS AND SPECIFIC  
PROBLEM OF MILLARS IN VIEW OF DECEMBER 20 MEETING.  
NORLAND

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976GABORO02290  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760459-1214  
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**Line Count:** 66  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SCS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 74 CAPE TOWN 855  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MENNONITE VISA PROBLEMS  
**TAGS:** CVIS, BC, SF, US  
**To:** PRETORIA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006